

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – ACTION SUMMARY

Wednesday, June 9, 2004 – 6:00 p.m.

**Administration Building
2101 Hurley Way, Sacramento, CA**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Stewart. Board Members present: Duveneck, Engellenner, Goold, Granados, Jones, Lawson, Stewart, Trujillo, Valley. Staff: Fire Chief Martinez, General Counsel Price, Board Clerk Tilson.

Meeting dedicated in memory of former President Ronald Reagan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN DISTRICT JURISDICTION INCLUDING ITEMS ON OR NOT ON THE AGENDA

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER JPA—(Engellenner)

Director Engellenner stated a new Communications Center Manager was appointed on May 28 [effective July 1, 2004], and thanked District personnel who participated in the appointment process to include Deputy Chiefs George Appel and Teresa Means.

Folsom Fire Chief Eric Dutton, President of the Communications Center Board, introduced the new Communications Center Manager, William E. Harry, formerly the assistant commander of the telecommunications section for the California Highway Patrol.

Following a recess, the meeting reconvened at 6:25 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Board Meeting Action Summary—May 26, 2004

- **Board Action:**
Engellenner/Jones—approve the Consent Agenda. Directors Duveneck, Engellenner, Jones, Lawson, Valley, AYE. Directors Goold, Granados, Stewart, Trujillo, abstaining. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM(S)

1. District Paid or Subsidized Medical and Dental Plans for Retirees—(Price)

- Counsel Price recommended this item be postponed to the next meeting pending more information on the medicare interface issue.

- The Policy Committee referred the issue to the full Board with no position since some North Highlands people were not addressed and questions remain on the impact of medicare.
- **Board Action:**
General consensus to postpone action pending further information.

2. Resolution No. 32-04—Subsidy of Medical Benefits for SCERS Annuitants—(Price)

Director Valley was recused from the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

- A two-page staff report with attachments was submitted providing background information. Due to lower investment returns, a total of 28 former North Highlands and Florin Fire District employees, or their beneficiaries, will have their current SCERS medical benefit premium subsidy discontinued July 1, 2004.

- Cost comparison charts illustrated reductions in the subsidy rate through participation in a uniform Medicare Part B reimbursement program.

Recommend authorizing the former North Highlands and Florin Fire District annuitants, or their beneficiaries who are eligible, to participate in the District's Part B reimbursement program and establish a 2004/05 monthly medical benefit premium subsidy schedule for SCERS annuitants.

- The Policy Committee recommended the District pick up the SCERS subsidy.
- Pat Monahan of Local 522 echoed the sentiments of the Policy Committee and urged the Board to take care of its retirees.
- Lynn Frost, a Florin retiree, speaking on behalf of other fellow retirees, encouraged the Board to extend the same level of coverage as previously provided by SCERS in the past, even though the County is now covering their people at a lesser amount.
- Fire Chief Martinez stated the District will work with the Union on an agreement to maintain the 2003/04 SCERS rate for the retirees currently in SCERS that were former members of the fire district.

Pat Monahan of Local 522 was comfortable with sitting down to craft the necessary language.

- General Counsel Price recommended the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the subsidy at the County level.
- **Board Action:**
Duveneck/Jones—adopt the Resolution to authorize a subsidy at the County level. Directors Duveneck, Engellenner, Goold, Granados, Jones, Lawson, Stewart, Trujillo, AYE. Director Valley, absent. Motion carried.

Director Valley returned to the meeting.

3. 2004 Strategic Objectives—(Jones/Granados)

- The 2004 Strategic Objectives lists previously submitted for consideration to be distributed by the Board Clerk for further review.
- **Board Action:**
General consensus to postpone item to a future meeting.

4. Resolution No. 33-04—Surplus Vehicle Designation—(Ritter)

- Staff recommends approval of the Resolution establishing a list of surplus vehicles and authorize the Fire Chief to take the necessary steps for permanent removal as appropriate from the District's inventory.
- Letters of interest are evaluated and surplus vehicles donated or placed at County auction, or disposed of as appropriate.
- Director Goold supported an aggressive effort to contact and place surplus vehicles locally with rural or volunteer fire agencies in view of the budget constraints throughout California.

Deputy Chief Ritter stated the local underprivileged fire districts are a top priority. Outreach efforts can be increased and a list of past donations provided.

- **Board Action:**
Engellenner/Granados—adopt the Resolution. Directors Duveneck, Engellenner, Goold, Granados, Jones, Lawson, Stewart, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Motion carried.

5. Investigator Job Description—(Means)

- Director Granados stated the Ad Hoc Committee will schedule another meeting in the near future with Fire Marshal Dobson to move this issue forward.
- **Board Action:**
General consensus to continue this item.

PRESENTATION ITEM(S): None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—(Stewart)

- Enjoyable vacation in the Wyoming-Montana area.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT—(Fire Chief Martinez)

[Taken out of order after Committee and Delegate Reports]

- Distributed to the Board a copy of the Daily Staffing Experience reports for the last five months through May, as referenced in his June 4, 2004 response to Director Granados which was faxed to all Board members.
- Update on the ambulance revenue—
 - A report will be presented to the Finance Committee.
 - Based on information from our Third Party Administrator and in-house analysis, Medicare adjustments represent a majority of the decrease in projected revenue of approximately \$900,000 this year.
- Budget in general—further information available around August; primarily based on a few factors:
 - Ambulance revenue
 - Posting of property tax
 - State budget adoption and any possible impacts
- 9-1-1 Fee for public safety—Only City Councils and Boards of Supervisors can establish these fees and the District is participating in the discussions on receipt of some financial benefit to offset our Communications Center cost.
- Other issues associated with revenue—Gaming initiative will be on the ballot—revenue sharing primarily for law but also includes fire.
- State of California payment for Fire Chief's contract—distributed to the Board a copy of the check received in the amount of \$104,000.

- Distributed copies of the City of Sacramento's letter to LAFCo in response to the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) adopted by LAFCo under the Municipal Services Review (MSR).

The letter correlates to previous discussions on the Air Gas annexation wherein our opposition was removed conditioned on reaching an agreement on how to deal with annexed areas with respect to our property tax. Basic references:

- The City is a full service charter city and will provide fire protection and EMS to any area that becomes annexed by the City of Sacramento.
- The City may continue to offer contracts to other fire districts and reserves these rights.

Discussed the issue with the City Manager and Fire Chief. Hopefully an agreement can be reached on Air Gas and future annexations.

- Director of Finance—employment offer accepted and in the process of background investigation; anticipate new director on board July 1.
- June 11, 2004 at 7 p.m., McClellan Park—Metro Fire Recruit Academy Class 04-1 Graduation—23 people.
- Administration Entry Deck Renovation—no bids received. The Facilities Division anticipates starting this project in August.
 - Alternative locations to be considered for Board meetings during construction period.
- In response to Director Trujillo, no revenue was generated on the use of the helicopter for the mutual aid canyon rescue. Requests are monitored on a case-by-case basis and the helicopter is only made available if there is no impact on our abilities.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT—(Price) None.

- Closed Session Item No. 1 on the tort claim is deleted due to late filing.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS:**Executive Committee—(Stewart)**

- Next meeting: TBA

Communications Center Delegate—(Engellenner)

- The new Communications Center Manager will be scheduled for a ride in Metro 1 for an aerial view of his entire area of responsibility.
- Next Meeting: June 29, 2004 – 10:30 a.m.

California Fire & Rescue Training Authority—(Goold)

- JPA management to write a letter to Senator Feinstein urging building at McClellan and moving forward on the Northern California Training College to train firefighters.
- Next Meeting: TBA

Finance Committee—(Jones)

- Director Engellenner will chair the next meeting set for June 23, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. in her absence.

Policy Committee—(Granados)

- Received presentation.
- Next meeting: July 14, 2004 – 5:00 p.m.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION 7:35 PM**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION 7:55 PM**

Report by General Counsel Price:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: One (1) Case

Claim Against Public Entity Pursuant to Government Code Section 910 by Quinnie Dunbar

Deleted.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: One (1) Case

The Board was briefed by staff. No action taken.

3. PERSONNEL MATTERS

Pursuant to the California Government Code Section 54957
Communications Center

Board discussed personnel matter relating to the Communications Center. No action taken.

BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**Duveneck:**

[Under Committee and Delegate Reports]

- Viewed impressive canyon helicopter rescue mission of a hiker a couple weeks ago.
- Kudos to Captain Ellis on his representation of Metro Fire on TV. The job of reporting a tragedy and getting the facts across is not always easy.
- Thanked Chuck Horel, Assistant Chiefs Jim Hartley and Dan Haverty for their community presentation on the Fire Station 107 project.

Trujillo:

- Ride along with Station 21 on Memorial Day. Present at program held at Mt. Vernon Cemetery.

Third anniversary of a drowning rescue incident of a child revisited annually by Station 21, with Channel 3 present.

Granados:

- Thanked Local 522 for the experience at the Training Center in Elk Grove.
- NFPA conference attended. Some impact:
 - NFPA 1201 sets standard for setting up a fire department including staffing, finance, equipment, etc.
 - NFPA 1710 modified adding more cost.
 - NFPA 1600-standard for disaster and emergency management, and business continuity—trying to get Homeland Security to adopt. Affects businesses, public agencies, and non-profits.

Jones:

- Report on Special Districts Advisory Committee meeting held last night. The main focus was for all the special districts at the table to participate in a brainstorming session about the concerned interests of all the different districts on any potential future annexations or spheres of influence. Copies of meeting notes to be provided when available.

Deputy Chief Appel did a fine job. The report was conclusive. Staff is responding appropriately to the letter received at the same time from a non-special district on this subject.

Engellenner:

- Thanked everyone who participated in compiling the yearbook for an outstanding job.
- Thanked Fire Chief Martinez for providing the cake and refreshments for the new Communications Center Manager.

Stewart:

- Suggested a letter of acknowledgment be sent to the participants in the yearbook project.

Fire Chief Martinez stated we will put together a list and schedule an evening presentation of certificates of recognition.

Goold:

- Thanked the local labor group for the invitation to Firefighting 101. It was an outstanding educational process. Recommends every elected official be required to spend time in that experience. In those few short hours, it gives you an appreciation for the risks that these men and women take every day.
- Offered personal condolences to the Reagan family.

Martinez:

- Received a thank you note from a resident of the Arden Bluffs area. Several fires were set in that area. An appropriate thank you will be sent to our investigators who went beyond the call of duty to apprehend the suspect.

Stewart:

- Thanked Director Jones who presided over the last two Board meetings in his absence.
- Announced that he will be submitting his letter of resignation from the Board at the next meeting, to be effective at the end of the meeting. They will be moving and it gives the District a chance to elect someone for the remaining two years of his office. The resignation will be hand-delivered to the Office of Voters Registration and Elections.

Counsel Price stated that will create a vacancy and it will be on the November ballot for the unexpired two-year portion of the term.

Director Stewart stated, at the discretion of the Board, he would appreciate a chance to be appointed until the election or until his home sells, whichever comes first.

Valley:

- Extra yearbooks are available for some Board members who were not aware.

Fire Chief Martinez stated we will take care of Directors Lawson and Trujillo.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

James M. Stewart, President

H. Peter Engellenner, Secretary

Charlotte Tilson, Clerk of the Board